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# Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 STR-07
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /042 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AN:MMEYERS:JG
APPROVED BY EB:JLKATZ
EA/J:DBROWN
EB/OA:MHSTYLES
----------098240 231040Z /15
R 230116Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 074703

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR,JA

SUBJECT:CIVAIR: US/JAPAN NEGOTIATIONS: MARCH 17-21

REF: STATE 70695

SUMMARY: LITTLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. UNDERSECRETARY COOPER HAS STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF REACHING AGREEMENT WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF STRAUSS-USHIBA COMMUNIQUE. TAKASHIMA HAS POSTPONED HIS DEPARTURE UNTIL WEEK'S END. TWO SIDES MAY SETTLE FOR SMALLER AND/OR SHORTER TERM UNDERSTANDING. END SUMMARY.

1. LITTLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE SINCE STATUS REPORT CONTAINED REFTEL BECAUSE JAPANESE OFFERS ARE IN NO WAY EQUIVALENT TO THEIR DEMANDS. IN EXCHANGE FOR SEATTLE, CHICAGO AND BEYOND NEW YORK TO BRAZIL, JAPANESE HAVE OFFERED (A) 15 PERCENT OF GRADUAL INCREASE OF NARITA SLOTS
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TO U.S. AND (B) YEARLY INCREASE IN CHARTER OPERATIONS, UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH, HOWEVER, SEVERELY LIMIT MARKET-ABILITY OF CHARTER PROGRAM; E.G., STRICT CHARTER RULES AND GUARANTEE OF ONLY TWO SLOTS PER DAY.

2. US IS REQUESTING ONE-THIRD OF INCREASED SLOTS AT NARITA, (OUR PRESENT SHARE), SUFFICIENT LIBERALIZATION OF

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RULES AND SLOT GUARANTEES FOR VIABLE CHARTER PROGRAM, AND FREEDOM TO UTILIZE AIRCRAFT IN MOST EFFICIENT MANNER; E.G. MINIMUM RESTRICTIONS ON FIFTH FREEDOM AND AGREEMENT ON PENDING LOW FARES. THESE OBJECTIVES WERE AGAIN PURSUED WITHOUT SUCCESS AT MARCH 21 PLENARY.

3. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TAKASHIMA AND TERAI MET WITH UNDERSECRETARY COOPER AFTERNOON OF MARCH 21. LINKING CIVAIR TO BROADER ECONOMIC ISSUES, COOPER STATED THAT HE HOPED AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE STRAUSS-USHIBA COMMUNIQUE. HE NOTED THAT IDEA IS GAINING CURRENCY, BOTH HERE AND IN EUROPE, THAT JAPAN DOES NOT PLAY BY THE RULES; IT IS NECESSARY THAT THE GOJ, IN CIVAIR AS ELSEWHERE, BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE. TAKASHIMAREPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT COMPETENT TO DISCUSS THE LARGER CONTEXT. LATER TAKASHIMA, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR TOGO, MET WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE BUT CIVAIR WAS NOT DISCUSSED.

4. COMMENT: JAPANESE SIDE STILL WANTS AN AGREEMENT AND TAKASHIMA HAS POSTPONED HIS DEPARTURE UNTIL END OF WEEK. DURING MARCH 21 PLENARY, TWO SIDES AGREED THEY MAY HAVE TO SETTLE FOR AN EVEN SMALLER AND/OR SHORTER TERM PACKAGE.

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# Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Decaption Note:**
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1978STATE074703
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** MMEYERS:JG
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** GS
**Errors:** N/A
**Expiration:**
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**Review Markings:**
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